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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



International Patent Application of

NISHI

Atty. Ref.: 925-190

Serial No. 09/834,923

Group: 2812

Filed: April 16, 2001

Examiner: unknown

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE PRODUCING METHOD
AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, a copy of each of which is enclosed. The attached form PTO-1449 is based on a European Search Report mailed August 3, 2001, a copy of which is attached, with respect to this disclosure.

The U.S. 6,043,529 reference corresponds to the DE 196 40 246 reference.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested.

Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

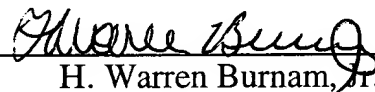
I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (2)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)], an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner [Commissioner's Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 12-25 at 25].

Respectfully submitted,
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

October 3, 2001

By:



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